

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A process for the disposal of sulfur ~~which comprises comprising~~

~~melting the sulfur; optionally in the presence of hydrogen sulfide;~~ and

injecting the molten sulfur into geological structures having a temperature ranging from 90 to 160°C.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 1, wherein the disposed sulfur comes from purification treatment of hydrocarbons of a fossil nature (crude oil) or from a natural gas.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 1-~~or 2~~, wherein the molten ~~elemental~~-sulfur come directly from the Claus process.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The process according to claim 1-~~or 2~~, wherein the ~~elemental~~-sulfur comes from a surface storage site.

Claims 5-7 (Canceled).

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The process according to ~~any of the previous claims~~ claim 1, wherein the geological structures which are appropriate for receiving molten sulfur are those forming the reservoir from which ~~the~~ crude oil or natural gas containing sulfur are removed.

Claim 9 (New): The process of claim 1, wherein melting sulfur is performed in the presence of hydrogen sulfide.

Claim 10 (New): The process of claim 9, wherein the hydrogen sulfide is used in a mixture with other gases which do not have the capacity of reducing the melting point of the sulfur.

Claim 11 (New): The process of claim 10, wherein the gas mixed with hydrogen sulfide is methane or carbon dioxide.

Claim 12 (New): The process of claim 9, wherein the hydrogen sulfide is separated from natural gas.